



SCIENCE

The Science Program is off to a very strong start to successfully integrate solid science into the CALFED Bay-Delta Program. The Science Program will provide the new information and scientific interpretations necessary to implement, monitor, and evaluate the success of CALFED Program actions and guide future decision-making.

First year goals outlined in the ROD were met and exceeded, and progress has been made towards 2001 goals through the following actions:

- Hosted the first CALFED Science Conference.
- Hired a Lead Scientist, program manager, and associate program manager.
- Began to develop a science plan for each CALFED program, and a process to incorporate peer review into the science program.

GOALS AND OBJECTIVES: The long-term goal of the Science Program is to establish a body of knowledge that is unbiased, relevant, authoritative, integrated across program elements, and communicated to the scientific community, CALFED agency managers, stakeholders, and the public.

The Science Program's implementation strategy began with hiring a lead scientist. The lead scientist is working to identify the role of science in the CALFED Program and establishing the level of world-class science called for in the ROD. To assure the quality of science, CALFED agencies will look outside the program for ideas and peer review. Traditional scientific mechanisms will be incorporated. To improve the scientific basis for decision-making, five approaches will be used: adaptive management, monitoring programs, interdisciplinary resolution of critical unknown facts and integrating those resolutions into the knowledge system, technical panels to evaluate and characterize critical issues, and results of the science communicated to both scientists and the general public.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS: Staffing for the Science Program has exceeded the stated goal, and the lead scientist is working with CALFED program staff, agencies, and stakeholders to further strengthen the program.

Other Science Program accomplishments include:

- Establishing a process to incorporate peer review into the CALFED Science Program to ensure a strong scientific component in all programs.